

REMARKS

Reconsideration of the objection to claims 1 and 11 is respectfully requested in light of the amendments to the claims.

Reconsideration of the rejection of the claims under 35 USC §§ 102, 103 as anticipated by Leadford or obvious in light of Leadford and Sales is respectfully requested.

The reflector of Leadford includes major and minor prisms much as described in the instant application as being in the prior art. More specifically, the major and minor prisms of the Leadford reflector extend over the entire length of the reflector. For example, see figure 4 of Leadford, which shows that minor prisms 36 extend over the entire length of the reflector. Thus, the minor reflectors of Leadford continually reduce in size until they "disappear" near the top of the reflector. Moreover, the minor prisms of Leadford transition over the entire height of the reflector and have a degree of taper that is different from that of the major prisms. The reflector of Leadford, therefore, suffers from the drawbacks outlined in this application resulting from the fact that the two prisms have distinct light patterns.

In contrast to the teachings of Leadford, applicant provides main and transition prisms, wherein the major part of the transition prisms have the same degree of taper and provide the same light pattern as the main prisms. The transition prisms of applicant's invention also have a transition zone that allows the transition prisms to merge into the valleys of the main prisms, but these are made short whereby they do not have a significant impact on the light pattern.

Sales appears also to teach transition prisms (see figure 6) that gradually merge into the valleys between main prisms, as is described in the instant application as being in

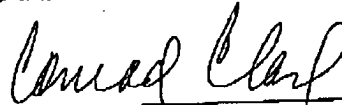
the prior art. Accordingly, neither Leadford nor Sales has any teaching that would have led one of ordinary skill in the art to this invention.

New claim 15 is directed to the features of the invention wherein the major and minor prisms are of essentially identical shape and contour, except for the transition area. Leadford clearly has no teaching of these features because the minor prisms taper continually such that the configuration of these prisms is always distinct from that of the major prisms.

It is submitted that this application is in condition for allowance, and an early indication thereof is respectfully requested. The examiner is invited to contact the undersigned with any outstanding matters.

All necessary extensions of time are hereby requested. Please charge all necessary fees to deposit account 50-1088.

Respectfully submitted,
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